

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

YO! HARTFORD
PROGRESS COLLABORATIVE
2001 -2002 Grant Amount: **\$6,999,857**

Capital Region Workforce Development Board

99 Pratt Street, Hartford, CT 06106
Tel: (860) 522-1111; Fax (860) 722-2486
Project Director, Bob Rath: bob.rath@scservices.org

Mission and Vision

VISION: Our vision is a community that embraces and prepares generations of young people to become self-sufficient contributing members to the community.

MISSION: Our mission is to serve as a catalyst for the transformation of the delivery of the youth development, youth employment and educational services in Hartford, while providing guidance and support to youth.

Program Overview

YO! Hartford provides an array of youth development and workforce preparation services to youth ages 14-21 from six economically deprived neighborhoods in two youth centers. YO! Hartford seeks to increase the numbers of youth who complete their high school education, enter the workforce, and enter post-secondary training opportunities.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES

- Open and develop YO South and YO North Centers offering comprehensive services for youth.
- YO! Hartford Youth Development Specialists provide one-on-one mentoring with youth, facilitate programs on-site and assist youth in development and implementation of a Personal Learning and Career Plan
- YO! Hartford organizes Teen Café, a recruitment and social event for youth, parents and the community with as many as 300 people in attendance
- YO! Hartford has established on-site mental health services for youth which includes one-on-one and group sessions
- Working with Silsar Systems YO! Hartford has established a music and video technology program. The youth in this program produced a YO! Hartford PSA video and then received the “Best Public Service Announcement 1st Annual Video YO Contest” award.
- YO! Hartford has developed and implemented a web-based case management system called “Hartford Connects”

KEY PARTNERS/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **Hartford Public Schools** - provide ABE/GED classes at both YO centers, host the server for Hartford Connects and provide desktop support for PC's.
- **City of Hartford** - provides sports and recreation opportunities for youth.
- **Capital Region Workforce Development Board** – provides project management for Hartford Connects, procures and manages specialized services for youth and overall project oversight for the community.